

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2043

INFO AMEMBASSY ANAKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

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AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USNATO

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AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, UR, CY, GR, TU

SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS FUDGES TURKISH REJECTION OF
SOVIET PROPOSAL IN CYPRUS

1. THE SOVIET PRESS HAS STILL NOT REPORTED TO ITS
DOMESTIC AUDIENCE THE TURKISH REJECTION OF MOSCOW'S
PROPOSAL FOR A BIG INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CYPRUS.
PRAVDA (AUGUST 29) HINTED AT ANKARA'S LACK OF
ENTHUSIASM, HOWEVER, BY REPORTING THAT TURKEY THOUGHT
THE CYPRUS ISSUE SHOULD BE SETTLED BETWEEN TURKEY,
GREECE, THE UK AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TWO CYPRIOT
COMMUNITIES. MEANWHILE, PRESIDENT MAKARIOS WAS ADDED
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TO THE LIST OF THOSE SUPPORTING THE SOVIET PROPOSAL.

2. IZVESTIYA (AUGUST 28) REPLAYED ATHENS PRSS REPORTS THAT THE U.S. HAD URGED GREECE NOT TO SEEK A BROAD FORUM AND NOTED REPORTS THAT U.S.-GREEK RELATIONS HAD WORSENER BECAUSE OF THE U.S. POSITION ON THE CYPRUS QUESTON.

3. A PRAVDA COMMENTARY (AUGUST 29) BY VLADIMIR DROBKOV CONTINUED MOSCOW'S STRONG ANTI-NATO LINE ON CYPRUS AND THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN. NOTING THE REPORTED INCREASE IN NATO FORCES IN AND AROUND CYPRUS, THE ARTICLE CHARGED THAT BEHIND-THE-SCENES MANEUVERS BY THE NORTH ATLANTIC BLOC WERE PART OF "UNCEASING EFFORTS TO LIQUIDATE CYPRUS AS AN INDEPENDENT AND SOVEREIGN STATE." THE ARTICLE GOES ON TO BLAME NATO "AGGRESSIVE CIRCLES," WHO PROVOKED THE CYPRUS TRAGEDY, FOR "SEEKING TO INCITE FURTHER MILITARY TENSIONS IN THE EASTERN MED." KRSNAYA ZVEZDA (AUGUST 29) EXTENDED EARLIER ANTI-NATO CHARGES BY CLAIMING THAT THE CYPRIOT PUTSCH WAS "ACTUALLY PLANNED BY CERTAIN CIRCLES OF NATO."

3. COMMENT: THE SOVIETS MAY STILL BE HOPING TO SALVAGE SOME SORT OF CONFERENCE, BUT HAVE HAD TO HINT THAT THE PROPOSAL THEY OFFERED IS NOT UNIVERSALLY APPLAUDED. THEY HAVE STILL NOT CRITICIZED TURKEY DIRECTLY, AND THE HEIGHTENED INTENSITY OF THEIR ANTI-NATO COMMENTS SUGGESTS THAT THE PROPOSAL'S FAILURE WILL BE LAID ON NATO AND PERHAPS WASHINGTON RATHER THAN ANKARA.
STOESSEL

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